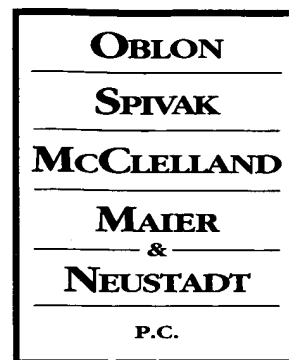




Docket No.: 259206US2PCT
Date Allowed: 02/02/06

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

GREGORY J. MAIER
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RE: Application Serial No.: 10/507,374
Applicants: Hiroaki KATO, et al.
Filing Date: September 21, 2004
For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR CONTROLLING
MANEUVERABILITY OF VEHICLE
Group Art Unit: 3611
Examiner: Winner, T.H.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE
LETTER SUBMITTING REPLACEMENT DRAWING SHEET(S)
DRAWING REPLACEMENT SHEETS (2)**

Our check in the amount of - 0 - is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier

Registration No. 25,599

Attorney of Record

Raymond F. Cardillo, Jr.

Registration No. 40,440

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DOCKET NO: 259206US2PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : DATE ALLOWED: 02/02/06
HIROAKI KATO, ET AL. : EXAMINER: WINNER, T.H.
SERIAL NO: 10/507,374 :
FILED: SEPTEMBER 21, 2004 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3611
FOR: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR :
CONTROLLING MANEUVERABILITY
OF VEHICLE

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

The Examiner's statement of "Reason for Allowance," included as an attachment to the "Notice of Allowability" (PTOL-37) that is in turn attached to the "NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE" mailed February 2 , 2006, is believed to be improper in indicating that only method claims with "interconnecting/intricate steps" are presented. In this regard, independent Claim 3 is an apparatus claim that includes "means" limitations, not steps. Moreover, the intended meaning of "interconnecting/intricate steps" is unclear even as to independent method Claim 1.

Accordingly, the above-noted Examiner's statement of "Reason for Allowance" is submitted to be unclear and in error at least as to the subject matter of independent apparatus Claim 3 and apparatus Claim 4 that depends on Claim 3. Therefore, it is further respectfully submitted that this statement of "Reason for Allowance" should be clarified as to the meaning

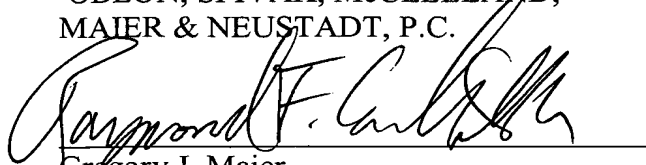
Application No. 10/507,374

Reply to Notice of Allowance Mailed 02/02/06

of "interconnecting/intricate steps" and also modified to indicate the actual subject matter included in apparatus Claims 3 and 4.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond F. Cardillo, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

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Docket No.: 259206US2PCT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION: Hiroaki KATO, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/507,374

GAU: 3611

FILED: September 21, 2004

EXAMINER: Winner, T.H.

FOR: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR CONTROLLING MANEURABILITY OF VEHICLE

LETTER SUBMITTING REPLACEMENT DRAWING SHEET(S)

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Alexandria, VA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the below indicated communication, the following drawing sheets are submitted herewith:

☒ 2 Replacement Drawing Sheets

☐ _____ New Drawing Sheets

☐ Official Action dated _____

☒ Notice of Allowance/Issue Fee dated 02/02/06

☐ Other dated _____

The changes and/or modifications made include the following:

Replacement of Figures 2 and 5.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory J. Maier".

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